



Extensions and Amendments to the Foreign Trade Policy 2015-2020 and the Handbook of Procedures

- A. The Government has *vide* Notification No. 57/2015-2020 dated 31 March 2020 and Public notice No. 67/2015-2020 dated 31 March 2020 announced extension of validity of the Foreign Trade Policy 2015-2020 ('FTP 2015-2020') and the Handbook of Procedures (HBP) until 31 March 2021.
- B. Further various extensions have also been announced on the import validity period and the export obligation period for different schemes under the FTP 2015-2020
- C. The Government has also amended the FTP 2015-2020 to provide for SEIS benefit for financial year ('FY') 2019-20, however, the category of services and the rates schedule is yet to be notified.
- D. The amendments made in the FTP and HBP have been summarized below:

Particulars	Original date of operation / expiry of validity period	Extended date for filing / extension of operation
General extensions		
Provisions of the FTP 2015-2020 and the HBP	31 March 2020	31 March 2021
Status certificates	5 years from date of application	5 years from date of filing or 31 March 2021, whichever is later
Import of un-shredded scraps through seaports in Chennai, Cochin, Ennore, JNPT, Kandla, Mormugao, Mumbai,	Permitted upto 31 March 2020 along with condition to install and operationalize	Time limit for import and installation extended to 20 September 2020 and de-

Particulars	Original date of operation / expiry of validity period	Extended date for filing / extension of operation
New Mangalore, Paradeep, Tuticorin, Vishakhapatnam, Pipava, Mundra and Kolkata [para 2.54 (d)(v)(ii) of the HBP]	Radiation Portal Monitors and Container Scanner. Failure to comply would result in de-recognition w.e.f. 01 April 2020	recognition from 01 October 2020 in case of failure.
PSIA (Pre-shipment Inspection Agencies) validity [para 2.55 of the HBP]	Extended validity upto 31 March 2020 or original validity upto 29 June 2020	30 June 2020

Chapter 3 extensions for Service Export from India Scheme ('SEIS') and Merchandise Export from India Scheme ('MEIS') and benefit of SEIS extended to 2019-20

SEIS Application for FY 2018-19 (Also refer amendment to Para 9.02)	31 March 2020	31 December 2020
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SEIS for 2019-20: The benefit under the SEIS has been extended for the period 2019-2020. Para 3.08(a) has been amended to provide that the service categories eligible under the scheme and the rates of reward on such services as rendered w.e.f. 01 April 2019 to 31 March 2020 shall be notified separately in Appendix 3 X. For the services rendered w.e.f. 01 April 2020, decision on continuation of the scheme will be taken subsequently and notified accordingly. [Notification No. 57/2015-2020 dated 31 March 2020]

MEIS Applications [Let Export ('LOE') date falling during 01 February 2019 to 31 May 2019]	Within 12 months from the LOE date	Application can be filed within 15 months from the LOE date
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Para 9.02 of the HBP has been amended to provide that the last date of submission of application, for the purposes of late cut, would be taken as that extended vide Public Notice No. 67/2015-20 dated 31 March 2020. It may be noted that the last date has only been extended for SEIS application for FY 2018-19 and therefore, it appears that the last date/ late cut will continue to apply for applications for FY 16-17 and FY 17-18. As a result, if FY 16-17 applications are not filed by 31 March 2020, they become time barred. It may have to be seen whether such non-extension can be challenged in view of the COVID-19 crises.

Chapter 4 extensions – Advance Authorization and Duty-Free Import Authorization ('DFIA')

DFIA [including transferable DFIA's]	01 February 2020 to 31 July 2020	Further 6 months from the date of expiry of validity of import
Advance authorization License imports / Export Obligation	01 February 2020 to 31 July 2020	Further 6 months from the date of such expiry

Particulars	Original date of operation / expiry of validity period	Extended date for filing / extension of operation
		<p><i>Note: No separate amendment / endorsement or application with composition fee is required on the authorizations. The option to avail further validity extensions under the procedures would remain available for these authorizations as per eligibility.</i></p>
<p>Replenishment Authorization applications</p>	<p>01 February 2020 to 31 July 2020</p>	<p>Further 6 months from the date of such expiry</p>
<p>Re-export of diamonds under Para 4.75 (c) [deals with Imports and of Diamond for Certification / Grading & Re-export] and 4.77 (c) [deals with exports against supply by a foreign buyer of gold/silver/platinum, mounting and findings etc.]</p>	<p>01 February 2020 to 31 July 2020</p>	<p>Further 6 months from the date of such expiry</p>
<p>Export through exhibitions/export promotion tours / export of branded Jewelry and its re-import [para 4.80 of the HBP]</p>	<p>01 February 2020 to 31 July 2020</p>	<p>Further 6 months from the date of such expiry</p> <p><i>Note: the relaxation in repatriation of sale proceeds would be equal to the period allowed plus six months, or as per the RBI guidelines, whichever is less.</i></p>
<p>Exports / replenishment / imports or drawal of precious metals as calculated for Para 4.82 [Replenishment basis], Para 4.83 [Outright purchase basis in advance], Para 4.84 [Laon Basis] and Para 4.85 [Export against Advance Authorization]</p>	<p>01 February 2020 to 31 July 2020</p>	<p>Further 6 months from the date of such expiry</p> <p><i>Note: the relaxation in repatriation of sale proceeds would be equal to the period allowed plus six months, or as per the RBI guidelines, whichever is less.</i></p>

Particulars	Original date of operation / expiry of validity period	Extended date for filing / extension of operation
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Chapter 5: Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme ('EPCG')

EPCG License imports / Block-wise Export Obligation / Export Obligation period	01 February 2020 to 31 July 2020	Further 6 months from the date of such expiry
CE certificate for installation of imported goods under the EPCG Scheme [para 5.04 of the HBP]	01 February 2020 to 31 July 2020	Further 6 months from the original due date

Chapter 6: Export Oriented Units ('EOU')

LOP / LOIs for EOU / EHTP, STP and BTP scheme [Chapter 6 of the FTP and the HBP]	01 March 2020 onwards	31 December 2020
Export obligation against import of items covered under Chapter 9 of the ITC(HS) and coconut oil [para 6.06 of the HBP]	01 March 2020 to 30 June 2020	30 September 2020

Chapter 7 and 7(A): Deemed Exports / Transport and Marketing Assistance ('TMA') for Specified Agricultural Product Scheme

Terminal Excise Duty refund (TED) /Drawback [para 7A.01(d) of the HBP]	12 months from date of realization of 100% payment	30 September 2020 where last date of filing on or after 01 March 2020
TMA claims [para 7A.01(d) of the HBP]	Quarterly claims – online claims to be filed within one year from completion of quarter in which export is made	For quarter ending 31 March 2019 to 30 June 2019 claims can be filed upto 30 September 2020

E. Extension has been provided for various duty exemptions linked to the schemes under the FTP

Particulars	Original date of operation	Extension
Exemption from Integrated Goods and Service Tax ('IGST') and Compensation cess for imports against Advance	31 March 2020	31 March 2021

Authorization and EPCG Scheme for physical exports		
Exemption to IGST and Compensation Cess for imports and / or procurement by an EOU/EHTP etc. from bonded warehouses in Domestic Tariff Area or from international exhibition in India	31 March 2020	31 March 2021

- F. The DGFT will not insist on valid RCMC (in case where the same has expired on or before 31 March 2020) for any incentive / authorizations till 30 September 2020. It has been further provided that Export Promotion Councils can collect the applicable fees for the year 2020-21 on restoration of normalcy [Trade Notice No 60/2019-20 dated 31 March 2020]**



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